



Iowa Corrections System

Present Corrections System

The Iowa corrections system has four parts – administration, prisons, Community-Based Corrections, and Iowa Prison Industries. The Central Office is located in Des Moines and has responsibilities for administration, planning, policy development, program monitoring, and budgeting. Some staff perform system-wide administrative functions (for example, the medical services director and staff) and are located at one of the institutions or Community-Based Corrections (CBC) District Departments.

Iowa Prison Industries oversees the prison farms, traditional industry programs, private sector employment, and the prison canteen system. Iowa Prison Industries is self-funded and operates without General Fund support. Iowa Prison Industries oversees two revolving funds, the Iowa State Industries Revolving Fund and the Revolving Farm Fund. **Table 1** shows historical statistics for Iowa State Industries. **Table 2** shows the Profit and Loss Statement for the Revolving Farm Fund while **Table 3** shows the locations of Iowa Prison Farms.

The prisons are responsible for incarcerating violent offenders and higher-risk individuals and providing the offenders with services essential to reducing risk to the general public upon release or parole. Community-Based Corrections provides supervision and transitional treatment for probationers, work release clients, Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) inmates, and parolees within a community setting. Community-Based Corrections provides both residential and field services (street) supervision.

The CBC District Departments have responsibility for approximately 77.6% of the offenders under correctional supervision while they have approximately 27.5% of the total staff. In FY 1990, CBC supervised 81.5% of the offenders, but by FY 2008, the percentage had declined to 77.6%. Between FY 1990 and FY 2008, the prison population increased from 3,842 to 8,740 inmates, an increase of 4,898 (127.5%) inmates. Over the same time period, the CBC population grew from 16,905 to 30,216 offenders, an increase of 13,311 (78.7%).

The Iowa corrections system operates a continuum of sanctions, ranging from probation with minimal supervision to incarceration. The prisons provide the most severe level of sanction, incarcerating violent offenders and those offenders that cannot be safely managed in community settings. In addition to security, prisons provide for housing; dietary services; medical, mental health, and substance abuse treatment; education and job skills training; behavioral and psychological treatment; and recreational activities.

Prison System – The prison system has nine major prison facilities with a total of 7,413 general population beds and 671 medical and segregation beds. The prisons were operating at 117.5% of design capacity on December 31, 2008, with a population of 8,717. **Table 4** describes the nine prisons and distribution of the general population beds.

Since the beginning of FY 1990, 4,473 prison beds have been added to the system, an increase of 152.1%. The General Assembly approved additional beds at Fort Madison and Mitchellville during the 2008 Legislative Session. This increases preliminary design capacity to 8,110 beds when all construction is completed. The estimated completion date is FY 2014.

Linn County Jail – The Department of Corrections (DOC) has been housing Linn County jail inmates in the State prison system since the floods of June 2008. Linn County is providing staff while the DOC is providing food and utility costs. The average number of jail inmates held is approximately 131 inmates. It is anticipated these inmates will be housed in the State prison system at least until October 2009. The DOC is working with Federal Emergency Management Agency to obtain reimbursement for expenses related to housing these inmates.

Projected Prison Population Growth – On December 31, 2008, there were 8,717 inmates in Iowa's prison system. This is 35 more inmates compared to one year ago. However, the population on December 31, 2008, includes the Linn County jail inmates while the December 31, 2007 population does not. If the DOC were not housing county jail inmates, the State prison population would be less than one year ago. The decrease is primarily due to decreases in:

- Prison admissions for drug-related crimes.
- Felony dispositions.
- Revocations to prison.

The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division (CJJPD) of the Department of Human Rights has prepared a prison population forecast that adjusts for the recent departmental policy changes and projects prison population growth through FY 2018. If current offender behavior and justice system trends remain unchanged, the prison population will be 8,900 inmates by June 30, 2018, an increase of 3.3% over the next 10 years.

No New Prisons – By FY 2018 and without any additional prison beds, overcrowding will reach 109.7% of design capacity. This figure is based on the assumption that the additional beds authorized during the 2008 Legislative Session for Fort Madison and Mitchellville will be operating by FY 2018. If the population does not exceed 8,900 inmates, no additional prisons will need to be built, other than the expansions authorized at Fort Madison and Mitchellville.

Community-Based Corrections Population Growth – The CJJPD does not forecast the CBC populations. The following information was prepared using average annual percentage growth rates. The average annual growth rate for the CBC population since FY 1998 (10-year average) has been 4.2%. Since FY 1993, the growth rate has averaged 6.9% (15-year average). Using these average annual rates of growth, the CBC population will be approximately 48,300 offenders by the end of FY 2018, an increase of 18,000 offenders, or 59.8%.

Funding to Maintain Current Level of Services – If the CBC population reaches 48,300 offenders in 10 years, the General Fund appropriation will need to increase in order to maintain the current level of service. Assuming the budget will increase at the same rate as the CBC offender population, by FY 2018, the CBC District Departments will need a budget of approximately \$121.5 million, an increase of \$42.3 million (53.4%) compared to the actual FY 2008 General Fund appropriation. This calculation is based on the midpoint of the range of growth between the last 10 and 15 years.

Summary

The corrections system population can be expected to continue to grow over the next decade. This growth may possibly require the construction of new prison and CBC beds, expansion of Iowa Prison Industries, and an increase in CBC staffing and programming if current levels of service are to be maintained. There are options that may reduce the projected offender population, including:

- Sentencing changes, such as the repeal or reduction of mandatory minimum terms or habitual offender laws.
- Expand early release or parole eligibility.

- Enhance judicial discretion in criminal sentencing.
- Expand drug treatment availability.
- Establish a Sentencing Commission.
- Increase alternatives to prison for technical violators.
- Create emergency release mechanisms.

These alternatives may require additional resources for the DOC and/or the CBC District Departments. The alternatives, however, may slow the rate of growth in corrections spending or provide methods of future cost avoidance. The future costs of Iowa's current criminal penalties are greater than the costs of the alternatives.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Sales</u>	<u>Profit</u>	<u>Average Inmate Employment</u>	<u>Inmate Contact Hours</u>	<u>Productivity Per Inmate Employee</u>
2002	\$ 13,386,781	\$ (1,063,259)	316	648,749	\$ 42,363
2003	\$ 15,291,186	\$ (71,199)	328	658,168	\$ 46,619
2004	\$ 16,483,191	\$ 332,976	365	774,622	\$ 45,159
2005	\$ 19,582,132	\$ 401,110	410	811,522	\$ 47,761
2006	\$ 19,095,222	\$ 279,018	351	692,969	\$ 54,402
2007	\$ 20,398,056	\$ 976,907	390	806,026	\$ 52,303
2008	\$ 20,819,986	\$ 73,126	381	768,641	\$ 54,646

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Net Income</u>
2002	\$ 919,959	\$ 758,884	\$ 161,075
2003	\$ 969,199	\$ 973,536	\$ (4,337)
2004	\$ 806,300	\$ 682,657	\$ 123,643
2005	\$ 856,059	\$ 775,772	\$ 80,287
2006	\$ 876,252	\$ 756,456	\$ 119,797
2007	\$ 934,255	\$ 714,666	\$ 219,589
September 30, 2008	\$ 1,009,787	\$ 983,425	\$ 26,362

Table 3
Iowa Prison Farms

<u>Location</u>	<u>Crop Acres</u>	<u>Pasture or Timber</u>	<u>Rented Acres</u>	<u>DNR or Wetlands</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ft. Madison					
Farm #1		167.4	165.1	0	332.5
Farm #3	225.7	210.5	0	56	492.2
Anamosa	593	832.7	0	8.7	1,434.40
Newton	18.2	400	809.4	0	1,227.60
Mitchellville	114.2	10.7	0	0	124.9
Rockwell City	148.1	2.9	10	2	163
Eldora	0	65.2	220.9	0	286.1
Glenwood	0	17.2	353	0	370.2
Clarinda	0	0	28	0	28
Independence	0	3.9	73	0	76.9
Woodward	0	183.7	661.3	0	845
Total	<u>1,099.2</u>	<u>1,894.2</u>	<u>2,320.7</u>	<u>66.7</u>	<u>5,380.8</u>

Notes:

1. The farms are managed by Iowa Prison Industries (IPI), and funded through the Revolving Farm Fund.
2. Iowa Prison Industries rents land to private sector farmers to generate receipts for the Revolving Farm Fund.
3. No State appropriations support the prison farms; they must generate a net profit to remain in business.
4. The numbers above do not include acres maintained by the Institutions, such as parking lots, lawns, gardens or buildings.
5. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) rents ground for seedlings for the State Nursery and employs 40 offenders. The DNR pays rent to support IPI's upkeep of the grounds.

**Table 4
Iowa Prison System
(As of December 31, 2008)**

Prison	Current Capacity	Security Type	Population	Number Over Capacity	Emphasis
Ft. Madison	1,081	Max. 749	752	3	General-Male
		Med. 152	162	10	
		Min. 180	123	- 57	
Anamosa	1,001	Med. 913	1,220	307	General/Education-Male
		Min. 88	61	- 27	
Mitchellville	443	Min. 443	601	158	General-Female
Newton	944	Min. 182	315	133	Pre-Release-Male
		Med. 762	879	117	General
Oakdale	687	Med. 687	947	260	Reception/Evaluation/ General/Psychiatric
Mt. Pleasant	775	Med. 775	931	156	Substance Abuse/Sex Offender- Male
Mt. Pleasant	100	Med. 100	84	- 16	Special Needs Unit for Women
Ft. Dodge	1,162	Med. 1,162	1,144	- 18	General Male/Youthful Offender
Clarinda	975	Med. 750	867	117	Special Learning-Male
		Min. 225	130	- 95	
Rockwell City	245	Med. 245	501	256	General-Male
Total	<u>7,413</u>		<u>8,717</u>	<u>1,304</u>	